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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
**Wolfgang Christian HANS**  
**Lothar STEIDLER**  
**Erik René REMAUT**

§ Art Group No.:

§ Examiner:

Serial No.: 10/030,390

§ Atty. Dkt.: DCLQ002---  
 § 13475.0002.PCUS00

Filing Date:

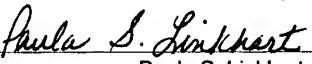
§ § 371 filing of International Application  
 § No.: PCT/EP00/06343 filed 5 July 2000

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PRIORITY NOTICE

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 Paula S. Linkhart	

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, line 2, please add a new paragraph following the Title:

--This application is a §371 national stage filing of PCT/EP00/06343, filed 5 July 2000 (published in English on 11 January 2001 as WO 01/02570 A1) and claiming priority to EP 99870143.7 filed 5 July 1999.--

Following the Claims, please add as a new page the Abstract, which is attached hereto.